



Delegate Report – September 18, 2010

I am truly sorry I cannot be with all of you today for the Area Committee as John and I are attending and participating in my daughter's wedding in Gettysburg, PA. I want to thank Linda J., Area 29 Alternate Delegate, for giving this report for me.

And I am SO pleased that Linda gets to present you with the **2010 Final Report from the 60th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous!!** The report is presented to us this year in what I like to call "butter cream linen" with hunter green lettering.

In addition to the Floor Actions, Advisory Actions, Additional Committee Considerations, and Recommendations which did not result in Advisory Actions; there are presentations which were given on timely topics, reports from the General Service Board, Grapevine Corporate Board and AAWS, Inc. Board; lists of the amounts of all literature distributed in 2009; delegate highlights printed in their entirety; lists of Conference members; Financial Reports and much, much more. If you enjoy pictures in the books you read, you will get those also. Taking the place of the artist's renderings from years past, this year you will find photos from the Conference and from Archives.

I received 30 boxes of reports on my doorstep and encourage all of you to take as many as possible to your groups and districts. There is also a box in Spanish available today.

Quarterly Meeting of General Service Board of AA – Minutes - August 2, 2010

Following is a synopsis of the 53 pages of minutes from the August 2 quarterly meeting of the trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. You will note that there is no information from AAWS, Inc. on income, expenses and sales of literature since that information was reported at the August Assembly.

Reports from the Grapevine Board Chair and the search committee for a new GV Executive Editor were heard. There is much anxiety among the trustees and many in the Fellowship regarding the challenges the GV faces. The GV is an essential part of the Fellowship and the conversation at the meeting strengthened the desire to see it flourish. With the departure of the Executive Editor, the job description has been modified to focus more on management and publishing skills. It is expected that we will move into the new year with a new GV Executive Editor/Publisher, movement on developing a strategic plan for the magazine, and improved finances.

AA Grapevine Financial Report – For the six months ended June 30, 2010, the AA Grapevine realized a net loss of \$286,223 in comparison to a budgeted net loss of \$226,301. Total AA Grapevine income, including interest from the Reserve Fund, was \$899,445 or \$26,922 behind budget. Total AA Grapevine expenses were \$1,185,668 or \$33,000 over budget.

Controller's Report on GV – Prepaid subscriptions as of June 30 were \$1,950,292. GV investment with the GSB of AA Reserve Fund (to fund prepaid subscriptions) is \$1,778,500. Funding is below the 95-97% range by approximately \$75,000. From January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010 AAGV, Inc. has drawn down a total of \$288,000 from the Reserve Fund as follows:

- 1) \$50,000 advance from November 2009 – made permanent draw down in February, 2010;
- 2) \$138,000 drawn down in February 2010 to replenish working capital per auditor's assessment of December 2009 Statement of Financial Position;
- 3) \$100,000 drawn down for operating cash needs. AAGV, Inc. will probably need to draw down from the Reserve Fund an additional \$50,000 to \$100,000 in the third quarter to fund operations.

GV Circulation, Development and Customer Service – The circulation director reported that circulation activities this quarter featured an expire

mailing; a gift giving campaign; a seventh renewal effort; testing of stamp required vs. postage paid; and decided on a new fulfillment house. Unit sales of the GV International Convention issue were 27,205 with revenue of about \$110,000.

Grapevine Editorial reports that the book ***Spiritual Awakenings II*** will be out in September.

La Viña Financial Report – Magazine income was \$49,963 which was over budget by \$3,211. Circulation averaged 9,048 for the six months ended June 30 (3 issues). Direct costs were \$34,284 which was \$915 under budget. Gross Profit on the magazine was \$15,679. This is \$4,126 ahead of budget and \$2,817 ahead of 2009. Other publishing income of \$17,325 is \$2,073 ahead of budget. Gross profit on related items was \$13,512. This is \$1,122 ahead of budget. Net loss for the six months ended June 30 is \$26,420. This is ahead of the budgeted loss of \$39,637 by \$13,217.

Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference

The committee discussed the Summary of the GSC Evaluation from members of the 60th General Service Conference and noted suggestions for improving the flow of the Conference, including concerns expressed regarding the number of presentations and allowing sufficient time for committee reports and Conference Business. The committee will review a preliminary agenda for the 61st GSC at their October 30 meeting.

Trustees' Committee on Corrections

The chair appointed a subcommittee to begin reviewing the 90 personal stories gathered for ***"It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell"*** and to bring back a progress report to the October 30 meeting.

The committee requested that the staff member request (via email) sharing of local solutions AA members may use to resolve perceived differences between facility rules/regulations and what AA is and is not, from all Area Corrections Chairs, H&I Chairs and Delegates.

Trustees' Committee on Public Information

The staff noted that the latest AA Video for Young People, "Animation" has been translated into Spanish and French and should be available for distribution in October.

The committee agreed to the 2010 Conference committee on PI Additional Consideration that a

copy of the AA Grapevine, La Viña and La Vigne be added to the contents of each PI Kit. Note: Fewer than 50 kits are given out yearly to new, rotated PI Area Chairs.

Fellowship Input Sought

I continue to gather input on the following items as requested by the General Service Office. DCMs and GSRs, please take these surveys back to your districts to request input from the fellowship.

1. What is the future of the A.A. Grapevine?

To date, I have received and input 211 completed questionnaires. If you have not had the opportunity to respond, Questionnaires are available today, on the MD General Service website at www.marylandaa.org, and they will also be available at the Fall Conference. **The deadline to return these forms is October 30, 2010** as I must provide the results to a central tabulator by November 10.

2. Electronic Delivery of A. A. Literature and Information

This questionnaire was first made available at the 2010 International Convention in San Antonio. The General Service Office would like your input to determine how best to serve those interested in accessing A.A. literature or information electronically. The questionnaire is available in hard copy today and it is also available on the MD General Service website. Please take a minute today to provide your responses to Linda to forward to me. **Deadline is October 1, 2010.**

3. Theme, Presentation and Workshop Topics

Last month I provided a questionnaire to the DCMs and some GSRs in attendance at the Area Assembly to provide their district's suggestions for the theme, presentation and workshop topics for the 2012 General Service Conference. Any suggestions provided will be sent by me to the 2011 Conference Agenda Committee to be added to the final Conference Agenda.

I would also like to ask Regional Panel 3 which has the topic of Agenda to use this form as part of the discussion at their next meeting to come up with suggestions. **The deadline is December 1, 2010.**



Don't forget, the **26th Annual Fall Conference** will be held October 28-31, 2010. The event has been moved back to the Clarion Hotel and Hager Hall Conference Center in Hagerstown. Look for the orange flyers and be sure to tell everyone about the new location!

Election of Area 29 candidate for Northeast Regional Trustee (NERT).

In April 2011, current NERT, John K. will be rotating. Area 29 will hold an election at the October Assembly to choose our candidate to submit to the Trustee's Committee on Nominating at the General Service Office. The final election of the NERT from among the candidates submitted by Areas in the Northeast Region, will take place at the 2011 General Service Conference

Please notify me if you are thinking about making yourself available for this position and would like a copy of the letter from GSO which provides the guidelines, qualifications, and resume form.

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Events

NERAASA 2011 – February 25-27, 2011
(North East Regional AA Service Assembly)
Flyers are available TODAY!!

Area 49 – SENY
Westchester Marriott
Tarrytown, NY

NERD 2011 – March 11-13, 2011
(North East Regional Delegate Reunion)
Area 45 – Southern NJ

The Flanders Hotel
Ocean City, NJ

NERF 2011 – May 20-22, 2011
(North East Regional Forum)
Area 30 & 31 – Eastern/Western Mass.
Sturbridge Hotel & Conference Center
Sturbridge, Mass.



Delegate Wanderings

Since the Area Assembly in August, I have been able to attend the following meetings:

August 15 - Linda and I traveled to Chestertown in District 46 for the election of Johanna M. as DCM to illuminate the district. Her Alt. DCM is Julianne R. It was exciting to actually hold a Third Legacy Procedure election as three people stood for each position. Congratulations to District 46!

August 20 – A trip to Frostburg, MD for the Western MD Intergroup meeting was rewarding and spiritual for me. I was able to re-establish contact with the current secretary who has been struggling to encourage participation. After she visited as many groups as possible to plead for support, there were eight AA members in attendance who offered to help promote attendance. Elections will take place in October for all new officers. I plan to make a return visit then.

August 21 – I visited the District 10 meeting which was well-attended and well-served by GSRs and interested members of the fellowship. Our own Area Chair was able to be there to lend her support.

August 29 – Regional Panel 6 on Literature and Archives. We understand this enthusiastic panel will present an Agenda Item for consideration.

Sept. 1 – District 34 in Glen Burnie. Thanks to DCM, Bill M. who is working to encourage participation by planning a workshop for January

Sept. 12 – Lower Shore Intergroup – A group of about 12 received the final Conference Report and a short presentation.

Sept. 13 – Baltimore Area Intergroup – About 60 members attended. I was able to give a short report on the Conference and other Area 29 happenings. Two boxes of final conference reports and other Questionnaires and handouts were distributed.

And finally, if I can assist your district, group, Intergroup or committee, please contact me. E-mail me at delegate@marylandaa.org.

**Yours in Service,
Nancy B
Panel 60 Delegate - Area 29**